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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/688,463 | 10/16/2000 | Gothard Schmid | A-2570 | 1413 |

7590

11/21/2002

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Post Office Box 2480
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480

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| EXAMINER |
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YAN, REN LUO

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2854

DATE MAILED: 11/21/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/688,463

Applicant(s)

SCHMID, GOTTHARD

Examiner

Ren L Yan

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 September 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 9 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10, 11 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 11.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wirz(5,479,856). The patent to Wirz teaches the detailed structure of a sheet printing machine as claimed including a first printing unit 1 having a common impression cylinder and four printing devices assigned thereto, and a second printing unit 2 selectively coupled with the first printing unit for in-line printing operation. The first printing unit has a sheet feeder at 9 and the second printing unit has a sheet delivery at 29. The second printing unit is provided with a zoneless ink metering device at 8 for transferring ink during printing. With respect to claims 5 and 8, the blanket cylinders in the second printing unit of Wirz satisfies the requirement. With respect to claim 10, the recited dryer can be readily seen in Wirz at 16 and 33.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wirz in view of Kolbe et al(6,016,748). Wirz may not show the use of a chamber type doctor blade. Chamber doctor blade coupled with a screen roller for transferring ink is well known and widely

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used in printing art. Kolbe et al in Figs. 1-3 show such a well known inking device. It would have been obvious to those having ordinary skill in the art to provide the ink device of Wirz with a chamber doctor blade and a screen roller in order to achieve the same ink transfer operation.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wirz in view of Hofmann et al(5,503,674). Wirz may not show the detailed structure of the inking unit.

Hofmann et al teach in a rotary printing press the conventionality of using a trough 10, a dip roller 20 and a metering roller 2 for transferring vanishing fluid to the printing cylinders. See Fig. 3 in Hofmann et al for example. It would have been obvious to those having ordinary skill in the art to provide the inking units of Wirz with the trough, the dip roller and the metering roller appropriately disposed as taught by Hofmann et al in order to ensure a proper amount of inking fluid being transferred to the printing cylinders.

Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wirz. The present disclosure stated that varies types of printing cylinder can be used for the applicator cylinder of the second printing unit. Since the recited types of printing cylinders are all well known and due to the lack of disclosure showing any criticality, it would have been obvious to those having ordinary skill in the art to equip the second printing unit of Wirz with the type of applicator cylinder based upon the desired printing outcome.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wirz in view of Rodi(5,115,741). Wirz teaches the use dryers for drying the printed sheet but does not specify the type of dryer used. Rodi teaches a device for drying printed sheets and suggested to use a UV excimer laser as the dryer for ensuring optimum drying of the printed product. See the paragraph bridging columns 6 and 7 in Rodi for example. It would have been obvious to one of

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ordinary skill in the art to provide the sheet printing machine of Wirz with a UV excimer laser dryer to achieve improved drying operation.

Claim 9 is allowed.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ren L Yan whose telephone number is 703-308-0978. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm.

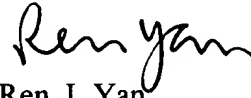
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on 703-305-6619. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ren yan", with a stylized, cursive script.

Ren L Yan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2854

Ren Yan
November 15, 2002